

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 14, line 17, with the following rewritten paragraph:

Next, 10 μ g of fragmented cRNAs derived from each sample were added to a hybridization buffer (Affymetrix) and 200 μ l of this solution were brought into contact for 16 h at 45°C with an expression chip (Human Genome U95Av2 GeneChip® (Affymetrix)), according to the Affymetrix protocol as described on the Affymetrix internet site ~~(see, in particular, at the following address~~

~~http://www.affymetrix.com/support/downloads/manuals/expression_s2_manual.pdf~~).